

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1202: A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Office of Government Ethics through fiscal year 2006. (Rept. No. 107-88).

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment:

H.R. 717: A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and services with respect to Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 2215: A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 1319: A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Navy nominations beginning Rear Adm. (lh) Jose L. Betancourt and ending Rear Adm. (lh) Thomas E. Zelibor, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 10, 2001.

Air Force nomination of Gen. Hal M. Hornburg.

Army nomination of Donald W. Dawson III.

Army nomination of Daniel M. Macguire.

Army nomination of Christopher M. Murphy.

Army nomination of Daniel F. Lee.

Air Force nominations beginning Brigadier General James P. Czekanski and ending Colonel Erika C. Steuterman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on October 18, 2001.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 1585. A bill to establish grant and scholarship programs to enable hospitals to retain and further educate their nursing staffs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S. 1586. A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to authorize the carrying of firearms by employees of licensees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1587. A bill to provide improved port and maritime security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr.

CRAPO, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KYL, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 1588. A bill to provide a 1-year extension of the date for compliance by certain covered entities with the administrative simplification standards for electronic transactions and code sets issued in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1589. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand medicare benefits to prevent, delay, and minimize the progression of chronic conditions, establish payment incentives for furnishing quality services to people with serious and disabling chronic conditions, and develop national policies on effective chronic condition care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 1590. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to improve the environmental review process that is associated with authorizations required under Federal law for construction, operation, or maintenance of energy facilities; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1591. A bill to promote the safe and efficient supply of energy while maintaining strong environmental protections; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 1592. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal funds from being used to provide payments under a Federal health care program to any health care provider who charges a membership or any other extraneous or incidental fee to a patient as a prerequisite for the provision of an item or services to the patient; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1593. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a grant program to support research projects on critical infrastructure protection for water supply systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1594. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide programs to improve nurse retention, the nursing workplace, and the quality of care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MILLER (for himself and Mr. HELMS):

S. Res. 174. A resolution expressing appreciation to the United Kingdom for its solidarity and leadership as an ally of the United States and reaffirming the special relationship between the two countries; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. Con. Res. 80. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the 30th anniversary of the enactment of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 414

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. 414, a bill to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish a digital network technology program, and for other purposes.

S. 583

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 583, a bill to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to improve nutrition assistance for working families and the elderly, and for other purposes.

S. 721

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 721, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Nurse Corps and recruitment and retention strategies to address the nursing shortage, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH of Oregon) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV.

S. 990

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 990, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to improve the provisions relating to wildlife conservation and restoration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1140

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1140, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1224

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1224, a bill to amend title

XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the availability of medicare cost contracts for 10 years.

S. 1292

At the request of Mr. EDWARDS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1292, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for dry and wet cleaning equipment which uses non-hazardous primary process solvents.

S. 1499

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH of Oregon) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1499, a bill to provide assistance to small business concerns adversely impacted by the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 1520

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1520, a bill to assist States in preparing for, and responding to, biological or chemical terrorist attacks.

S. 1530

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1530, a bill to provide improved safety and security measures for rail transportation, provide for improved passenger rail service, and for other purposes.

S. 1539

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1539, a bill to protect children from terrorism.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to provide for grants through the Small business Administration for losses suffered by general aviation small business concerns as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. 1567

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1567, a bill to foster innovation and technological advancement in the development of the Internet and electronic commerce, and to assist the States in simplifying their sales and use taxes.

At the request of Mr. ENZI, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1567, *supra*.

S. RES. 171

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Oregon

(Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON of Florida), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 171, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate concerning the provision of funding for bioterrorism preparedness and response.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 1585. A bill to establish grant and scholarship programs to enable hospitals to retain and further educate their nursing staffs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Hospital Based Nursing Initiative Act, a bill that will create new and innovative incentives to lessen the impact of the critical shortage of nurses in our Nation's hospitals. I am very pleased that my respected colleague, Senator JOHN ENSIGN, is joining as sponsor of this legislation.

Before I get into the specific about the bill, I'd like to talk about the overall condition of nursing in America for a moment. Several studies have been completed in the past year that show troubling trends developing in this historic profession. Take for example, the study that reflects a 41 percent dissatisfaction rate among nurses in America, higher than the dissatisfaction rate in most other countries throughout the world. Think about that for a moment, 4 out of 10 nurses in America are dissatisfied with their profession.

Another study reveals that nearly one third of nurses under the age of 30 plan to leave the nursing profession within the next year. In addition, the average age of nurses in America is 45, with many nurses headed toward early retirement. We cannot afford to lose both the older and younger nurses at the same time. Further, while the number of people that are being hospitalized may continue to decrease, those people who are being admitted are sicker and need more intensive nursing care. Not a very rosy picture for patients who are sick. We need to ask will there be someone to provide care for them?

The shortage of nurses has severely affected the health care industry. And hospitals have been hit the hardest since nearly 60 percent of nurses work in hospitals. Further, we know that when nurses have more autonomy, greater control and input into the decision making process, and better communication with physicians and hospital administration, they are more likely to experience greater job satisfaction and stay in their jobs longer.

These very tenets make up the American Nurse Credentialing Center's "Magnet" accreditation process of nursing services at hospitals. As a result, Magnet hospitals lead the way in attracting and retaining nurses.

Many hospitals have begun to take these steps already. But more must be done. There must be incentives for hospitals to revise their management principles to improve the quality of the work environment in the hospital, initiate aggressive retention programs for nurses currently working in the hospital setting, and create the types of programs that will increase personal and professional satisfaction for the nurses in their facilities.

That is why I am introducing the Hospital Based Nursing Initiative Act of 2001. This bill will create innovative incentives for hospitals that have taken the first steps in developing aggressive retention techniques and develop a scholarship program for hospital-based nurses to return to school on full tuition scholarship to complete a nursing degree.

The first component of this bill will create a competitive grant program that would provide funds to hospitals of up to \$600,000 based on staffed bed size for nursing services to use to bolster their retention efforts and improve the work environment for the nursing staff in the hospital. These grants would be made available every two years on a competitive basis. Several major nursing and hospital organizations, such as the American Hospital Association, American Nurses Association, American College of Health Care Executives, the American Organization of Nurse Executives, the American Academy of Nursing, the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association and the American Federation of Hospitals have wholeheartedly endorsed this bill. I am pleased that legislation which incorporates a number of ideas in this bill is moving toward markup in the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. I appreciate the cooperative spirit with which members of the committee have worked together on these ideas.

The second part of my bill would allow nurses who work in hospitals to return to school on a full tuition scholarship in order to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This "Bridge" scholarship program targets the nearly 55 percent of the nursing workforce who hold an Associate's Degree in Nursing or Diploma in Nursing. Under the Bridge program, nurses will have up to three years to complete the Bachelor's degree. In turn, nurses who accept the scholarship must agree to work in the sponsoring hospitals for the same number of months that they receive scholarship funding. This program is a win-win situation: It provides ongoing advanced education for nurses who seek a higher level of training and we keep skilled nurses working in our hospitals.

We have the opportunity to make a difference. With the bill that Senator